

**Memorandum of the Meeting  
Regular Study Session/Meeting  
Twenty-Sixth Town Council of Highland  
Monday, January 05, 2009**

The regular session of the Twenty-Sixth Town Council of the Town of Highland was convened at the regular place, the Highland Municipal, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana, in the plenary meeting chambers on Monday, January 05, 2009 at the regular time 7:00 o'clock p.m.

**Roll Call:** Councilors Bernie Zemen, Konnie Kuiper, Brian Novak and Dan Vassar. Councilor Mark Herak was absent. The Clerk-Treasurer Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

Dennis Tobin, Ed Dabrowski and Larry Vassar of the Park and Recreation Board; Mark Roorda of the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners; and Laurel Roach and Karen Ziants of Community Events Commission were also present.

Alex M. Brown, CPRP, Parks and Recreation Superintendent was also present.

Taghi Arshami, AICP, ASLA of the Arsh Group as well as Thomas Brown of Brown Insurance Group, were also present.

Colin and Shannon Peterson were present also. Colin Peterson is an employee of the Town of Highland.

**General Substance of Matters Discussed**

1. The Town Council received a brief survey and overview presented by Taghi Arshami and the Parks and Recreation Superintendent on the current status of the Park and Recreation Master Plan. The Park and Recreation Board was seeking feedback and comment from the Town Council regarding the draft plan. The presentation included a survey of income, population and related community comparative statistics. The discussion included consideration of demographics and changes in neighborhoods as these may affect existing park playgrounds.

The discussion included whether or not the plan included repaving of the Bike Trail. It was suggested that paving or resurfacing would require a grant.

The discussion included the possibility of finding a site adequate to relocate the Sharp Athletic Complex, in concert with some redevelopment initiatives.

Mr. Arshami, Tobin, Vassar, and Brown departed at this time.

2. The Town Council, Mr. Brown discussed the possibility of adding coverage for infertility treatments. It presently is not an included benefit in the health plan, just adopted. The discussion included the possibility of establishing a special benefit, supported by the Town to accommodate the issue of supporting infertility treatment. The request to consider this approach was placed before the Town Council by Colin and Shannon Peterson.
3. The Town Council, the Clerk-Treasurer, Ms. Ziants and Ms. Roach discussed the authorized fee structure for the annual independence festival and the mistaken undercharge that the group charged last year. The discussion included whether or not the existing vendor and arts and crafts fees were too high and therefore deterred greater participation by some arts and crafts vendors. The fees were set in Section 32.47 of the municipal code.

4. The Clerk-Treasurer offered a verbal survey and summary of Ordinance No. 1419, which if adopted would establish a Select Centennial Commission for the anniversary of the Town's incorporation, April 4, 1910. The Clerk-Treasurer encouraged the Town Council to review critically the draft ordinance, particularly to structure, and finance. It was noted that the ordinance was drafted to sunset. The commission would upon a date certain be disbanded.
5. The Town Council discussed informally candidates for appointment. The discussion included Town Councilors offering impressions of the interviews conducted of the several candidates for appointment. The discussion included the merits of limiting tenure or terms of appointees to specific committees. The discussion included encouraging fresh ideas.

The Town Council also discussed committee and liaison assignments, Councilors expressing their preference for appointments. The discussion included commending Mr. Zemen as Town Council President. The discussion included informal identification of nominees for the position of Town Council President and Vice President.

There being no further interviews or business to come before the Town Council, the regular study session of the Town Council, **of Monday, January 05, 2009**, was adjourned 8:47 o'clock p.m.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA  
Clerk-Treasurer